IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended) A television camera which adjusts the levels of the R, G and B signals obtained through a three-color separation optical system to maintain white balance, said television camera comprising:

an iris section for performing the opening/closing operation of a diaphragm of a taking lens, and outputting a diaphragm signal indicating the opening condition of the diaphragm;

a microcomputer for inputting the diaphragm signal from the iris section, and setting level adjusting values of the R, G and B signals; and

white balance correcting means for adjusting the levels of the R, G and B signals according to the level adjusting values,

wherein said white balance correcting means have three analog multipliers for multiplying individually the R, G and B signals before being white balance corrected and multiplying coefficients corresponding thereto, and outputting individually the individually multiplied values as the R, G and B signals after being white balance corrected,

wherein said microcomputer stores the multiplying coefficients supplied to said white balance correcting means as said level adjusting values by bringing the multiplying coefficients into correspondence with the whole of the diaphragm regions of the taking lens,

wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is not opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer outputs said multiplying coefficients stored to said analog multipliers,

wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer sets individually said multiplying coefficients in such a manner that a level of at

least one arbitrary signal of the R, G and B signals is made substantially even to that of at least one

of other R, G and B signals, and outputs them to said analog multipliers,

wherein setting of the level adjusting value and level adjusting according to the level

adjusting value are performed in response to a change in the diaphragm condition of said taking

lens, and

~~The television camera as set forth in claim 1,~~ wherein said arbitrary ~~one~~ signal is the

signal G.

5. (Currently amended) A television camera which adjusts the levels of the R, G and B

signals obtained through a three-color separation optical system to maintain white balance, said

television camera comprising:

an iris section for performing the opening/closing operation of a diaphragm of a taking lens,

and outputting a diaphragm signal indicating the opening condition of the diaphragm;

a microcomputer for inputting the diaphragm signal from the iris section, and setting level

adjusting values of the R, G and B signals; and

white balance correcting means for adjusting the levels of the R, G and B signals according

to the level adjusting values,

wherein said white balance correcting means have three analog multipliers for multiplying

individually the R, G and B signals before being white balance corrected and multiplying

coefficients corresponding thereto, and outputting individually the individually multiplied values as

the R, G and B signals after being white balance corrected,

wherein said microcomputer stores the multiplying coefficients supplied to said white

balance correcting means as said level adjusting values by bringing the multiplying coefficients into

correspondence with the whole of the diaphragm regions of the taking lens,

wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is not opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer outputs said multiplying coefficients stored to said analog multipliers,

wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer sets individually said multiplying coefficients in such a manner that a level of at least one arbitrary signal of the R, G and B signals is made substantially even to that of at least one of other R, G and B signals, and outputs them to said analog multipliers,

wherein setting of the level adjusting value and level adjusting according to the level adjusting value are performed in response to a change in the diaphragm condition of said taking lens, and

~~The television camera as set forth in claim 1,~~ wherein said arbitrary ~~one~~ signal is the signal R.

6. (Currently amended) A television camera which adjusts the levels of the R, G and B signals obtained through a three-color separation optical system to maintain white balance, said television camera comprising:

an iris section for performing the opening/closing operation of a diaphragm of a taking lens, and outputting a diaphragm signal indicating the opening condition of the diaphragm;

a microcomputer for inputting the diaphragm signal from the iris section, and setting level adjusting values of the R, G and B signals; and

white balance correcting means for adjusting the levels of the R, G and B signals according to the level adjusting values,

wherein said white balance correcting means have three analog multipliers for multiplying individually the R, G and B signals before being white balance corrected and multiplying

coefficients corresponding thereto, and outputting individually the individually multiplied values as the R, G and B signals after being white balance corrected,

wherein said microcomputer stores the multiplying coefficients supplied to said white balance correcting means as said level adjusting values by bringing the multiplying coefficients into correspondence with the whole of the diaphragm regions of the taking lens,

wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is not opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer outputs said multiplying coefficients stored to said analog multipliers,

wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer sets individually said multiplying coefficients in such a manner that a level of at least one arbitrary signal of the R, G and B signals is made substantially even to that of at least one of other R, G and B signals, and outputs them to said analog multipliers,

wherein setting of the level adjusting value and level adjusting according to the level adjusting value are performed in response to a change in the diaphragm condition of said taking lens, and

~~The television camera as set forth in claim 1,~~ wherein said arbitrary ~~one~~ signal is the signal B.

7.   (Currently amended) A television camera which adjusts the levels of the R, G and B signals obtained through a three-color separation optical system to maintain white balance, said television camera comprising:

an iris section for performing the opening/closing operation of a diaphragm of a taking lens, and outputting a diaphragm signal indicating the opening condition of the diaphragm;

a microcomputer for inputting the diaphragm signal from the iris section, and setting level adjusting values of the R, G and B signals; and

white balance correcting means for adjusting the levels of the R, G and B signals according to the level adjusting values,

wherein said white balance correcting means have three analog multipliers for multiplying individually the R, G and B signals before being white balance corrected and multiplying coefficients corresponding thereto, and outputting individually the individually multiplied values as the R, G and B signals after being white balance corrected,

wherein said microcomputer stores the multiplying coefficients supplied to said white balance correcting means as said level adjusting values by bringing the multiplying coefficients into correspondence with the whole of the diaphragm regions of the taking lens,

wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is not opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer outputs said multiplying coefficients stored to said analog multipliers,

wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer sets individually said multiplying coefficients in such a manner that a level of at least one arbitrary signal of the R, G and B signals is made substantially even to that of at least one of other R, G and B signals, and outputs them to said analog multipliers, and

~~The television camera as set forth in claim 1,~~ wherein setting of the level adjusting value ~~in said control means~~ and level adjusting according to the level adjusting value ~~in said white balance correcting means~~ are performed in response to a change in the diaphragm condition of said taking lens.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) A television camera which adjusts the levels of the R, G and B signals obtained through a three-color separation optical system to maintain white balance, said television camera comprising:

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an iris section for performing the opening/closing operation of a diaphragm of a taking lens, and outputting a diaphragm signal indicating the opening condition of the diaphragm;

a microcomputer for inputting the diaphragm signal from the iris section, and setting level adjusting values of the R, G and B signals; and

white balance correcting means for adjusting the levels of the R, G and B signals according to the level adjusting values,

~~The television camera as set forth in claim 8,~~ wherein said white balance correcting means have three analog multipliers for multiplying individually the R, G and B signals before being white balance corrected and multiplying coefficients corresponding thereto, and outputting individually the individually multiplied values as the R, G and B signals after being white balance corrected, ~~and~~

wherein said microcomputer stores ~~previously~~ the multiplying coefficients supplied to said white balance correcting means as said level adjusting values ~~value~~ by bringing the multiplying coefficients ~~them~~ into correspondence with the whole of the diaphragm regions of the taking lens, ~~and~~

wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is not opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer outputs said multiplying coefficients ~~thus~~ stored to said analog multipliers, and

~~while~~ wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer sets individually said multiplying coefficients in such a manner that a ~~the~~ level of at least one ~~an~~ arbitrary ~~one~~ signal of the R, G and B signals is made substantially ~~relatively~~ even to ~~with~~ that of at least one of other R, G and B ~~both the~~ signals, and outputs them to said analog multipliers.

10-16. (Canceled)

17. (New) A television camera white balance correcting method for adjusting the levels of the R, G and B signals obtained through a three-color separation optical system to maintain white balance, said television camera white balance correcting method comprising the steps of:

a) performing an opening/closing operation of a diaphragm of a taking lens, and outputting a diaphragm signal indicating the condition of the diaphragm;

b) inputting the diaphragm signal from the step a) into a microcomputer, said microcomputer operative to set level adjusting values of the R, G and B signals;

c) adjusting the levels of the R, G and B signals according to the level adjusting values;

d) multiplying individually the R, G and B signals before being white balance corrected and multiplying coefficients corresponding thereto, and outputting individually the individually multiplied values as the R, G and B signals after being white balance corrected; and

e) storing the multiplying coefficients as said level adjusting values by bringing the multiplying coefficients into correspondence with the whole of the diaphragm regions of the taking lens,

wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is not opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer outputs said multiplying coefficients, and

wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer sets individually said multiplying coefficients in such a manner that a level of at least one arbitrary signal of the R, G and B signals is made substantially even to that of at least one of other R, G and B signals.

18. (New) A television camera white balance correcting method for adjusting the levels of the R, G and B signals obtained through a three-color separation optical system to maintain white balance, said television camera white balance correcting method comprising the steps of:

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a) performing an opening/closing operation of a diaphragm of a taking lens, and outputting a diaphragm signal indicating the condition of the diaphragm;

b) inputting the diaphragm signal from the step a) into a microcomputer, said microcomputer operative to set level adjusting values of the R, G and B signals;

c) adjusting the levels of the R, G and B signals according to the level adjusting values;

d) multiplying individually the R, G and B signals before being white balance corrected and multiplying coefficients corresponding thereto, and outputting individually the individually multiplied values as the R, G and B signals after being white balance corrected; and

e) storing the multiplying coefficients as said level adjusting values by bringing the multiplying coefficients into correspondence with the whole of the diaphragm regions of the taking lens,

wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is not opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer outputs said multiplying coefficients,

wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer sets individually said multiplying coefficients in such a manner that a level of at least one arbitrary signal of the R, G and B signals is made substantially even to that of at least one of other R, G and B signals,

wherein setting of the level adjusting value and level adjusting according to the level adjusting value are performed in response to a change in the diaphragm condition of said taking lens, and

wherein said arbitrary signal is the signal G.

19. (New) A television camera white balance correcting method for adjusting the levels of the R, G and B signals obtained through a three-color separation optical system to maintain white balance, said television camera white balance correcting method comprising the steps of:

a) performing an opening/closing operation of a diaphragm of a taking lens, and outputting a diaphragm signal indicating the condition of the diaphragm;

b) inputting the diaphragm signal from the step a) into a microcomputer, said microcomputer operative to set level adjusting values of the R, G and B signals;

c) adjusting the levels of the R, G and B signals according to the level adjusting values;

d) multiplying individually the R, G and B signals before being white balance corrected and multiplying coefficients corresponding thereto, and outputting individually the individually multiplied values as the R, G and B signals after being white balance corrected; and

e) storing the multiplying coefficients as said level adjusting values by bringing the multiplying coefficients into correspondence with the whole of the diaphragm regions of the taking lens,

wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is not opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer outputs said multiplying coefficients,

wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer sets individually said multiplying coefficients in such a manner that a level of at least one arbitrary signal of the R, G and B signals is made substantially even to that of at least one of other R, G and B signals,

wherein setting of the level adjusting value and level adjusting according to the level adjusting value are performed in response to a change in the diaphragm condition of said taking lens, and

wherein said arbitrary signal is the signal R.

20. (New) A television camera white balance correcting method for adjusting the levels of the R, G and B signals obtained through a three-color separation optical system to maintain white balance, said television camera white balance correcting method comprising the steps of:

a) performing an opening/closing operation of a diaphragm of a taking lens, and outputting a diaphragm signal indicating the condition of the diaphragm;

b) inputting the diaphragm signal from the step a) into a microcomputer, said microcomputer operative to set level adjusting values of the R, G and B signals;

c) adjusting the levels of the R, G and B signals according to the level adjusting values;

d) multiplying individually the R, G and B signals before being white balance corrected and multiplying coefficients corresponding thereto, and outputting individually the individually multiplied values as the R, G and B signals after being white balance corrected; and

e) storing the multiplying coefficients as said level adjusting values by bringing the multiplying coefficients into correspondence with the whole of the diaphragm regions of the taking lens,

wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is not opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer outputs said multiplying coefficients,

wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer sets individually said multiplying coefficients in such a manner that a level of at least one arbitrary signal of the R, G and B signals is made substantially even to that of at least one of other R, G and B signals,

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wherein setting of the level adjusting value and level adjusting according to the level adjusting value are performed in response to a change in the diaphragm condition of said taking lens, and

wherein said arbitrary signal is the signal B.

21. (New) A television camera white balance correcting method for adjusting the levels of the R, G and B signals obtained through a three-color separation optical system to maintain white balance, said television camera white balance correcting method comprising the steps of:

a) performing an opening/closing operation of a diaphragm of a taking lens, and outputting a diaphragm signal indicating the condition of the diaphragm;

b) inputting the diaphragm signal from the step a) into a microcomputer, said microcomputer operative to set level adjusting values of the R, G and B signals;

c) adjusting the levels of the R, G and B signals according to the level adjusting values;

d) multiplying individually the R, G and B signals before being white balance corrected and multiplying coefficients corresponding thereto, and outputting individually the individually multiplied values as the R, G and B signals after being white balance corrected; and

e) storing the multiplying coefficients as said level adjusting values by bringing the multiplying coefficients into correspondence with the whole of the diaphragm regions of the taking lens,

wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is not opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer outputs said multiplying coefficients,

wherein in a condition in which the diaphragm of the lens is opened near to the opening end, said microcomputer sets individually said multiplying coefficients in such a manner that a level of at

least one arbitrary signal of the R, G and B signals is made substantially even to that of at least one

of other R, G and B signals, and

wherein setting of the level adjusting value and level adjusting according to the level

adjusting value are performed in response to a change in the diaphragm condition of said taking

lens.